1986 which include$_s$ a proposal envisaging' modernisation of Bokaro Steel Plant of SAIL with technical and economic cooperation from USSR. A Techno-Economic Offer has been received from the Soviets •recently for the modernisation of the Steel Melting Shops and Hot Strip Mill of th$_e$ Bokaro Plant.

Shortfall in the Production of Pulses

*252. SHRI MUKHTIAR SlflNTGH MALIK:
SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news which appeared in the "Financial Express" of the 8th February, 1988, wherein it had been stated that there was a likelihood of shortfall in the production of pulses in the country;

(b) if so, the estimated shortfallin the production of pulses during the year 1988-89 and the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether any steps has been taken to meet the same?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BHAJAN LAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The crop year 1988-89 refers to the period, 1st July, 1988 to 30th June, 1989. It is too early to indicate any shortfall in the likely production of pulse$_s$ for that year.

(c) For increasing the production of pulses, the following strategy has been adopted:—

(i) A Centrally Sponsored Na tional Pulses Development Pro ject (NFDP) has been launched from 1986-87 in all the States;

(ii) Introduction of pulse crops in irrigated farming system under double and multiple cropping;

(iii) Bringing additional area under:—

*

(a) short duration varieties of urad, moong etc. i$_n$ rice fallows by utilising residual moisture in rabi season;

(b) short duration arhar in rotation with wheat in Northern States; and

(c) summer pluses with irrigation after mustard, potato and wheat;

(iv) Inter-cropping Of arha with soyabean, bajra, cotton, sug^ arcane and groundnut, both under irrigated and unirrigated conditions;

(v) Adoption of plant protection measures; use of phosphatic fertilisers and rhizobium culture, multiplication and use of improved pulse$_s$ seeds.

(vi) Pricing and marketing support.

Registration 6TT^{5}roalicers7lfireetof9 for T.V. Serials

*253. SHRI BHAGATRAM MAN-HAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to refer to the reply to Starred Question No. 8 given i$_n$ the RaJ-ya Sabha o$_n$ the 6th November, 1987 and state;

(a) whether the process of scrutinising the applications for registration of producers/directors for Television serials have commenced;

(b) if so, what was the total number of applications received by Door-darshan upto 30-10-87 and how many applications have been processed so far; and

(c) what are the names of the persons associated with this Committee?